

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 15, and 16 are pending in this application for which applicants seek reconsideration.

Toyoda (U.S. Patent No. 5,881,233) discloses a facsimile apparatus that transmits the image data input from a common input source either in the facsimile or email mode based on a user selection. See Fig. 25. Toyoda has a data compressor/expander 8A that encodes the binary image data converted by the scanner 6 both in the facsimile mode and in the email mode. Toyoda calls for using the same image data in both the facsimile mode and in the e-mail mode.

In contrast, the claimed invention calls for changing the format between the image data transmitted in the facsimile transmission and the image data transmitted in the electronic mail transmission (white pixels are added in the facsimile transmission if the input image data is smaller than a predetermined image size, whereas the white pixels are not added in the electronic mail transmission).

Applicants submit that the pending claims patentably distinguish over the applied references and are in condition for allowance. Should the examiner have any issues concerning this reply or any other outstanding issues remaining in this application, applicants urge the examiner to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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DATE

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